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high grade Straw
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very lowest prices.

ANOTHER SESSION WILL FINISH UP THE COUNTY BILL

(Continued from page 1.)

Later the Speaker reversed his ruling, and declared the resolution adopted.

The Serrao claim came up again from the finance committee. As the claim was considered by the fire claims court, the committee was opposed to opening up that question and recommended that the matter be indefinitely postponed. It was shown that Serrao had accepted the 10 per cent payment. The report was adopted.

SHORT LIVED FRANCHISE.

Partial reports were made by the committee on agriculture and manufactures on the electric franchise bills, approving both with some changes, the most important being the limiting the life of both the Hawaiian and Oahu Ice to 15 years. Kellinor objected on the grounds that a longer time was necessary to insure the investment of capital. The reports were laid on the table, to be considered with the bills.

HACK BILL PASSES.

The afternoon session opened with the sending of the bill providing for the purchase of the Pauoa Valley springs by the government to a special committee of five. The Speaker named: Messrs. Kumalae, chairman, Aylett, Kalama, Damien, Pulaa.

The hack bill came up and was freely discussed. Kumalae tried to insert a section providing that nothing in the bill should affect drivers who hold licenses at present. Speaker Beckley ruled that this was class legislation, and immediately Kumalae moved to strike out the clause providing that the applicants should speak and read English or Hawaiian. He argued that many persons who now had hacks and horses, who could not secure licenses under the law, would be compelled to sell their property at low prices. This, he said, would drive them to robbery, and the people of substance would suffer. He said the law would strike Chinese, Japanese and Portuguese. He said there were 400 hacks in the Territory, and the valuation based on two horses, stables, etc., was \$1,000. The only fair thing was to appropriate \$400,000 to pay for the property made valueless.

KUMALAE DRESSED DOWN.

Chillingworth, in a strong speech, answered Kumalae, saying that if the hack drivers to be thus confirmed in their possession of licenses were robbers, as pictured, they should be got rid of at once. He denounced this kind of "Americanism," picturing the heart-felt sympathy of Kumalae for the "poor" Japanese and Chinese, but not one tear for the Hawaiian who was being driven to the wall by the rate cutting of the Orientals, like whom they would not live.

Vida likewise went after Kumalae, saying the members were here to protect the Hawaiians, and he did not know before that any legislator had been elected by Orientals to protect their interests.

Fernandez supported the bill, saying Japanese made money by selling sake on their drives and Chinese by selling opium, while the Hawaiian coach driver obeyed the law and could not live in the face of competition.

Pall opposing and Aylett favoring the measure closed the debate and the bill passed: Ayes 24, noes 5, they being cast by Kumalae, Kaniho, Pall, Pulaa and Wright.

REMOVAL OF EMPLOYEES.

Damien asked the rules be suspended for a resolution and presented the following: That a special committee of three be appointed to investigate the discharge of certain government employees. He said many employees of long service had been removed, one Makelona, who had been discharged from the Auditor's office after the Auditor had told members of the House that the man would be returned to office. Kumalae supported the resolution, saying he could not understand the action of officials; they must be crazy, discharging men without cause, and they ought to be put where they deserved. He thought a resolution of want of confidence should be passed, so that the United States government would have attention called to these officials. He attacked Auditor Fisher, saying he had brought a pet from his private office and put him in government employ, though he was not a citizen. The resolution passed.

Kaniho got the rules suspended and presented a resolution setting forth that an appropriation had been made for a road from Pahala to the Volcano House, that Superintendent Cooper be asked to tell why the road is not completed, how much has been expended, and why the balance has not been expended.

WANTS VISIT TO KALIHI.

He then introduced a resolution that the House visit each department of the government, including Kalihi Detention Station, the latter visit to be made today. He supported this in a characteristic speech.

Greenwell said the time had come to stop this thing of resolutions, which were purposeless. He said work should be done, and the House could not go on

with this kind of business, and he moved to table the resolution. This was lost, and Harris moved to make it a committee of five. The Speaker said that as a committee of nine had been provided to go to the leper settlement, that committee would look into the conditions at Kalihi. The Speaker told Kaniho that his resolution was vague, and under it the whole House would have to go about so the chair would not entertain the resolution, so Kaniho got it back.

The House then adjourned.

IN THE SENATE.

House Resolution 7 calling upon Congress to increase legislative sessions and the pay of legislators was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Senator Crabbe presented a petition from 133 Hilo residents protesting against the granting of the electric railway franchise.

Senator Paris presented two petitions from North Kona citizens asking that the county seat of West Hawaii be located at Kanihohi instead of at Kailua; also that a \$10,000 court house be built there. Senator Baldwin inquired if there were any houses there now.

INSURANCE POLICIES.

Senator Baldwin reported for the Committee on Ways and Means recommending the passage of the insurance bill, after striking out the first section. This section provides practically that no policy can become invalid by reason of statements made by the insured. The bill will be read for the third time today.

The same committee reported against the bill requiring two payments of taxes each year, but recommending that the provision be inserted in the County bill.

TALK OVER COFFEE.

Senator Baldwin reported favorably also the bill exempting coffee and ramie lands from taxation but with the remark that in the Kona there wouldn't be anything left to tax to carry on the county. Senator Achi said he had coffee lands in Kona but did not favor the exemption. Senator Paris favored the bill saying that in a few years the value of the coffee lands would be enhanced and the tax receipts therefore increased.

Senator Baldwin said that the property tax amounted to only \$8,000 in both Kona and milderly suggested that probably the coffee men there were getting "foxy."

"I don't know that they are any foxier than the sugar men," replied Senator Paris.

Senator McCandless argued against the coffee exemption and said that Senator Paris wanted \$77,500 for roads in Kona and yet the total taxes were but \$18,000.

Senator Kalauokalani favored the bill and said that the time might come when the sugar men too would want exemption.

Senator C. Brown said that great care should be taken in cutting off revenues or the Territory might have a bankrupt county on its hands.

Senator Paris said that where there was one acre of coffee land in Kona there was a thousand acres of ranch land. The report will be taken up with the bill.

THE HILO FRANCHISE.

Senator McCandless for the Public Lands Committee reported favorably the Hilo Railway franchise bill with a number of important amendments. Any motive power but steam can be used, and the road may be built to Haka-lau if after two years the Kohala-Hilo Railway has not done so. Police and firemen may ride free, and school children at half fare. The speed in Hilo shall not exceed eight miles an hour, and after five years the company is to pay 2 1/2 per cent of its gross receipts into the Territorial treasury. To be considered with the bill.

TORRENS LAND LAW.

Senator Dickey for the Committee on Miscellaneous Business reported favorably the bill for the Torrens land registration system, saying that under it land could be transferred as easily as stock now is. The report was adopted; to be read a third time on March 30.

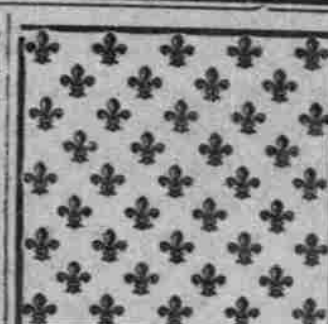
JUDICIARY REPORTS.

The Judiciary Committee reported favorably the following bills: Relating to the validity of wills; relating to change of name; for the redemption of mortgaged property with an amendment permitting waiver to right of redemption; relating to garnishment; making judgments liens upon real property; allowing amendments to process. All reports were adopted and the bills will be put on their passage Friday and Saturday.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

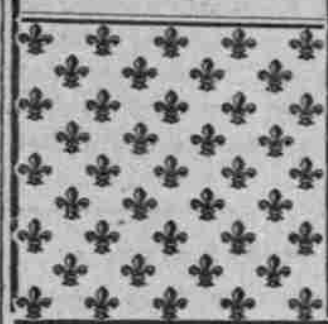
Consideration of the Hilo Electric Company's franchise was taken up after the noon recess. The committee amendment prohibiting the use of steam passed. Senator Baldwin was against any interference with the Kohala Railway. Senator J. T. Brown objected to the committee recommendation that the terminus be Kawiwi road, and wanted it made five miles from the court house. Senator McCandless read a letter showing that the Kohala right of way had only been affirmed in October, 1902. Senator Dickey moved an amendment that the bill be changed so as to allow the building of tracks two miles from the Hilo Court House.

Senator Woods wanted the company limited to carrying passengers, and not



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merchandise as he wanted the Kohala railroad to belt the Island. Senator Dickey opposed this. Senator Baldwin suggested that bundles could be carried anywhere, as is done in Honolulu. President Crabbe said that the carrying of mail could not be prohibited. The amendment was finally carried, allowing the carrying of personal baggage and packages. The substitute section providing free passage for police and firemen and half fare for school children passed. The committee amendment limiting speed within the city limits of Hilo was lost. Another amendment, making the construction of the road subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Public Works, was passed.

The amendment providing for the payment of 2 1/2 per cent of the gross receipts to the county government passed. The bill will be put on its final passage today.

NEW BILLS.

Senator Baldwin introduced his bill providing for bonds for public officers.

Senator Dickey introduced his bill repealing the law relating to the importation of foreign goods; also relating to protection of birds.

THIRD READINGS.

House Bill No. 28, reducing the penalty for concealing the death of an infant to one year failed to pass, the vote being six to six. C. Brown, Achi, Kalauokalani, Kaohi, Woods and Crabbe voting no.

The House bill reducing the penalty for larceny passed third reading unanimously.

The House bill reducing the penalty for assault and battery passed 12 to 1. Kalauokalani voting no.

The House bill fixing the penalty for receiving stolen goods passed unanimously.

The House bill relating to felonious branding of cattle passed unanimously. The bill relating to embezzlement passed unanimously.

The burglary act and the bill repealing the opium law passed unanimously.

The Senate bill prohibiting the sale of liquor to minors or to inebriates passed unanimously.

A 4 o'clock recess was taken until 7:30.

THE COUNTY BILL.

Tonight will see the close of the third reading of the county bill. When the Senate adjourned last evening there were seventy-four pages of the bill still left to read.

A number of important changes were made. The first was one requiring all taxes to be paid in the county. Another provided that all fees received by either Territorial or county officers shall be paid into the Treasury.

The entire section providing for the sale of awa licenses at auction was stricken out and an amendment carried making the general license \$25, which any one can take out. The penalty was reduced also, the minimum fine being \$25 and the maximum \$100.

Senator Paris's amendment to reduce the auction license fee for East Hawaii from \$50 to \$25 was lost. The amendment changing the West Hawaii and Kauai auction fee to \$25 carried.

Senator Achi's motion to reduce the annual boatmen's fee from \$8 to \$4 was lost.

The license fee of \$5 for hunters was raised to \$10, upon motion of Senator Isenberg.

The fee for lodging and tenement houses was raised from \$2 to \$10.

When the Senate adjourned, chapter 56, on marriage licenses, had just been reached.

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